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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

The Ancestry of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and of H. R. H. Prince Albert. Comprised in thirty-two Tables, with Biographical Memoirs and Heraldic Notices. By G. Russell French, Architect. Pp. 411. Pickering.

THE subject of genealogy is one of the most diverting in the whole round of literary labour, though superficial and unthinking people call it "dry." On the contrary, it is most amusing in all its shapes. A sailor's yarn, with all its adventures, is nothing to a real long line; a novel, with all its intrigues, nothing to a grave ancestral history; a poem, with all its landscape-scenery, or romance, with all its descriptive diffusion, nothing to a good old family date-tree, root, stem, branches, fruits, and leaves off.

And the beauty of the thing is, that it is no matter how you treat it. You have just to make it answer your proposed purpose; and it is equally entertaining in any way. Thus, if you desire to exhibit what, by a whimsical phraseology, is said to be a "high-descent" (as certain shoes are called High-lows!),* you begin at the beginning, or a little before, and deduce your *protégé* from Quinbus Flestrin or some greater personage, taking care to shew that he is the pure, direct, and main representative of that immortal source, though collateral streamlets have spread illustrious races of the same sanguineous flood over various quarters of the globe. On the other hand, if you wish to demonstrate that the object of your theme is not only glorious from a particular derivation, but, as it were, a centre of glorifications from numerous issues, you must go to work as our Architect has done, and casting round the periphery of the circle as far as eye or tradition can extend, you must bring all the runs of the best blood into the middle, and there exhibit their union in one wonderful well. The map, in that case, instead of displaying the common, well-known features of the genealogical tree, will somewhat resemble what we have often admired on the bush, viz., the exquisite web of the garden-spider. Here, from the farthest twig, hidden under foliage, come lines of single distinction—they mingle with other lines—they form knots and figures of grace and strength—they proceed inward, twisting and combining—till at last they contract into a sort of sacred circle, where sits the lovely insect, mottled like tortoise-shell, limbs of admirable proportions more taper than the antelope, eyes more bright and expressive than the gazelle, feelings attuned to the minutest affections of the external world, the highest attributes of physical power and activity united with the finest mental perceptions—a bodily shape unsurpassed in nature, and a soul to fly at the utmost limits of known space—in short, a perfect being, a queen in creation.

But we expect to be immediately asked, if we undervalue or despise good blood? Decidedly

not; we hold it in genuine estimation. We know what breed is in dogs, and horses, and sheep, and bees; yea, in pigs and poultry, and all domesticated animals. And if we prefer a stanch hound to a cur, a high-mettled racer to a miserable hack, or a gamecock to a dunghill,—so are we inclined to estimate the superior qualities of a human race improved by culture, and education, and habits of living, above another which may be dwindled by disease and poverty, brutalised by ignorance, and degraded by low and grovelling pursuits. Observe, we are drawing no comparison to the disadvantage of the poor; but, physically speaking, merely laying down the position that, as grooming improves the horse, tuition the dog, and cleanliness and feeding every creature to which we have alluded, the same order of effects must be produced on men and women, who are so happily situated in this world as to be able to command these mighty advantages.

We are great advocates, therefore, for true, noble, and gentle blood; whilst, at the same time, we stick to the poet's query,—

What can enoble slaves and cowards?
Alas, not all the blood of all the Howards!

And it is this which brings us, as it were, to a sense of the ridiculous, when we see too much soft-sawder bestowed upon the crack of mere birth. It is very well to place a sweet nosegay under the nose of nobility, or lay a pot of incense at the stairs of the throne. But do not hoist a whole nursery-garden in, to smother the one; nor empty a perfumer's shop before the other, at the risk of suffocation.

Mr. French has done so without compromise; and, unless by-gones are to be by-gones, we fear that, by enlarging his sphere, he has weakened his argument, and impeached his judgment. 'Tis (says the Scotch proverb)—

'Tis a poor kin
That hath not thief and worse in;

which meant, in old border and honest freebooting times, that the more numerous the clan, the more likely were there to be a few blots on its 'scutcheons. Now, in deriving our illustrious ruler, and her no less illustrious consort, not only from their immediate royal and princely ancestors, but from Saxons, Normans, Plantagenets, Tudors, Guelphs, Estes, Billings—from Cerdic, Charlemagne, Egbert, Witikind, Kenneth M'Alpine, and Boniface (whose *sic* bloods, though they were nearly contemporaries, about a thousand years ago, he declares do "centre in one person," our beloved and excellent little Queen), Mr. French must perceive, that he has opened a wide field for guessing that these lines may have been often enough crossed, without herald, historian, or genealogist knowing much about the matter. Indeed, it is but rational to suppose this to have happened; and whenever a few very fine samples of the genus *homo* are witnessed in a family, generation after generation, it is a pretty certain sign that the degenerating practice of marrying in and in, as it is called, has not been persevered in.

In like manner, we may presume that a considerable quantity of illegitimacy has contributed to the beauty, healthfulness, sinew, pith,

and vigour of the longest descended lines which are traceable in any rank of life. In the very heart of our author's magnificent royalties, William the bastard of Normandy cuts a conspicuous figure; and of the line of Kenneth M'Alpine it was in so doubtful a state on the death of Margaret of Norway, the young queen of Scotland, that no fewer than thirteen competitors claimed the crown, the majority of whom were derived through illegitimate channels from the royal family. Now, as it would be scandalous to suppose that our cold Caledonian ancestors, in their cold climate, were a bit worse than their neighbours in England, France, Germany, Italy, or Holland, it follows that there must have been a tolerable intermixture of bloods in every line that can boast of a quarter of a hundred generations—or less?

What, then, is the worth of a book like this to the eminent personages whose predecessors it is elaborately framed to illustrate?—It is a curiosity: no more. Their claims upon the love and loyalty of a people stand on far higher grounds—on conduct and character befitting and adorning their important stations. Born to a powerful crown, her Majesty acts not as a spoilt minion of fortune, but as famously becomes the queen of a free people. Elected to a mighty dignity and trust, her princely consort has, in a few short months, so fulfilled his duties, as to have become one of the most justly popular men in the British nation.

Frederick the Great and his Times. Edited, with an Introduction, by Thomas Campbell, Esq., author of the "Pleasures of Hope." 2 vols. 8vo. H. Colburn.

THESE volumes, the first part of the history of a very interesting European period—the events of which resemble a great drama—have somewhat surprised us, as the work of the Bard of Hope and Wyoming. In them he seems to have changed the poetic character, and to have become a good, honest, plodding, industrious Editor. We had no notion that Campbell could have bestowed so much painstaking upon a prose composition, nor evinced so much skill and research in delving out of the German language, and French and German authors, all the materials which he has here got together to illustrate the continental courts and cabinets of the last century. His patience and perseverance demand especial notice and praise; for it is chiefly from these sources that he has drawn the novel features of his book, and imparted to it an attraction which a mere compilation from better known memoirs and public documents must have wanted. It is so seldom we see Genius apply itself to labour and drudgery of the sort, that we are the more anxious to point out the merit in this instance; and to say that the editor appears to have sought information from every quarter with as much diligence as if he had never before written any thing higher than a Digest or Annual Register. His acquaintance with the German, too, seems more extensive and intimate than we could have anticipated; and, in short, where we least expected to be satisfied, we are satisfied the most.

* It is strange that the *vice versa* of *Parvenus* has never been expressed in a similar manner; in which we should have not a few of our modern peers, baronets, dignitaries, and nabobs, designated as persons of "Low-accents."—*Ed. Lit. Gaz.*

Such being our opinion, it strikes us that we shall best consult its development, and the pleasure of intelligent readers, if we utterly repudiate the critic's easy task of taking general views of historical matters, the outlines of which are as plain and as familiar as the road to Windsor; and rather dip into those portions not hitherto so clearly explored, and adduce quotations which are nearly or altogether new to the English public. In these respects the first volume is the richest; and we turn to it *con amore*.

The preface briefly paints Prussia as the grand Protestant rock of Europe, and shews its rapid rise in political power and internal good government; though Mr. Campbell condemns her for throwing herself into "the van of despotism" against the French revolution. The work then commences in right spirit with an able exposition of the state of society in Europe at the commencement of the eighteenth century, and proceeds to the lives and behaviours of the first and second Prussian kings, of the blood of Hohenzollern. Frederick the First was fond of ostentation and magnificence; and many of the original anecdotes of him are entertaining. His tastes in this way, the author tells us, were "particularly manifested in the festivities on account of the marriage of his only daughter, by his first wife, to the hereditary prince of Hesse Cassel, in May and June, 1709. On the wedding-day the court exhibited such pomp as had never before been witnessed. The jewels worn by the bride were valued at four millions of dollars. She had a coronet, set with diamonds and pear-shaped pearls, which alone was estimated at one million. Her train was borne by six maids of honour, who, on account of the great weight of the precious stones with which it was garnished, had two pages to assist them. The total weight of the bridal attire is said to have been nearly a hundred pounds. At the dinner which followed the nuptial ceremony, besides the table of the sovereign, there were eighty-six others for the entertainment of the guests. On the third day, after a grand baiting of bears, buffaloes, and wild bulls, caught in the forests of Lithuania, which took place in the park, the elector invited the whole company to supper, in what was called the "Kitchen-room." The fare here was known to be particularly sumptuous, the table being supplied by twelve master-cooks, who vied with each other in the display of their skill. But this time, when the guests entered the apartment, no table whatever was to be seen. Many began to surmise that the elector had played them a trick, when all at once the ceiling opened, and, to the astonishment of all present, a profusely covered table descended, as if by enchantment. Still greater was their surprise, when, after some time, this table sank of itself through the floor, and a third and a fourth descended from the ceiling like the former."

About this time the imitation of French manners and fashions prevailed in Prussia as elsewhere; and one writer inveighing against it, says—"It is well known, moreover, that the French are an amorous and lewd people; and hence it is that they so commonly have Venus-blossoms (*Venus-blumen*) on their faces. It was to cover these that they invented patches. This practice has been aped by our German damsels, who frequently cut their patches in the shape of flies, beetles, hares, asses, bears, sheep, oxen, and hogs; so that the French have not devised anything, be it ever so silly and absurd, that the Germans have not made still more silly and absurd in the imitation."

Frederick William, who succeeded his father

in 1713, was a very different person; and of him we are told:—

"The dress of the king was simple, like all his domestic arrangements. He appeared, for the last time, in a large flowing wig, at the funeral of his father. The king, we are told by Pöllnitz, had the finest hair in the world, of a light brown; but he had it cut off, and for a long time wore a wig with a tail; but in the latter years of his life he had close and almost white wigs, in which, though they were ill made, he looked extremely well. Till 1719, he dressed sometimes in plain clothes, at others in uniform; in the following years he was scarcely ever seen but in the uniform of colonel of the regiment of Potsdam grenadiers—blue turned up with red, yellow waistcoat and breeches, white linen gaiters with brass buttons, and square-toed shoes. Every thing was made to fit very tight. In bad weather, and for hunting, he put on boots. His hat was three-cornered, with a narrow gold lace, gilt button without loop, and a band of gold thread with two small gold tassels. When not in uniform, the king wore a brown coat and red waistcoat, with a narrow gold border. He was so saving of a good coat, that, when engaged in his cabinet, he would put on linen sleeves and an apron. He was a decided enemy to gaudy dresses and new fashions; and as, while yet a boy, he had vowed vengeance against French wigs and gold brocade dresses, so they still continued to be objects of his displeasure. He observed with indignation that the large laced hats and bags in which Count Rothenburg and his retinue appeared in public found admirers at court. To prevent imitation, he ordered, at the grand review held at Tempelhof, near Berlin, in 1719, that the regimental provosts, who, like the executioners and skimmers, were reputed infamous, should appear in the new French costume, only with the brims of the hats and the bags enlarged to an extravagant size. In order to throw ridicule upon the embroidered clothes and huge wigs of the privy-councillors and chamberlains, he directed that the court-fools should appear in that kind of attire on gala-days. Thus, too, the queen and the princesses were required to dress very simply. The latter, while young, were not allowed either silk or cotton dresses, but commonly wore serge of home manufacture. Paint was prohibited. For extraordinary occasions, however, the king had a particular dress, consisting of a uniform of blue velvet, lined with red; as for diamond-buttons, no such thing was ever seen. In regard to personal cleanliness, he was most scrupulously exact; and, to avoid dust in his apartments, he removed the silk tapestries, the cushioned chairs, and the carpets; and nothing but deal-tables and benches were to be seen there. The queen, on her part, appeared beside her royal consort healthy and hearty, the blooming mother of a blooming progeny. At a time when French licentiousness had infected like a pestilence almost every court of the Continent, Frederick William preserved his conjugal fidelity inviolate. During the journey which he took in 1732, to meet the emperor, he indulged in some jokes with a smart, lively peasant-girl, whom he met with in a village in Silesia. Grumbkow (the prime minister), thinking to gratify his master, offered to make proposals to her; but the king severely reproved him, declaring that he would never be unfaithful to his 'Fieckchen,' as he was accustomed to call the queen. * * * In Frederick William's excursions, the meanness of his subjects was allowed access to his majesty. One day, a

peasant ran along by his carriage, holding up a paper. The king ordered the driver to stop, took the paper, and was surprised to find upon it no writing, but merely a square, containing nothing but scrawls and blots of ink. He inquired what it meant. The peasant said that, being unable to write, he could not describe his case in any other way than by this drawing. 'Well,' said the king, 'just explain it to me.' The peasant, mounting upon the step of the carriage, began thus in his low German dialect: 'This here, look you, is my turnip-field, and those are my turnips; ah! such turnips, Mr. King, you ought to taste them—they are nice indeed.' 'Go on,' said the king. 'Well, these here, look you,' continued the peasant, pointing to the blots, 'are the antmann's pigs: they have got in, and ate up my nice turnips, so I am now a ruined man. Dear Mr. King, the antmann will not pay me for the damage, and that's very wrong; and so I want just to beg you to be so kind as to send word to the antmann to pay me for my turnips. I shan't begrudge a dish of turnips; and I'll be sure to bring you some, if you'll see me righted.' The king ordered the name of the village, of the antmann, and of the peasant, to be taken down, and promised to help him. The village was not far from Berlin, and he sent the same day a jäger to the antmann, with a very serious admonition to make the peasant immediate compensation. This had the desired effect; the antmann not only satisfied the demands of the complainant, but gave him more than he had asked. A day or two afterwards, the peasant, laden with a bag full of turnips, entered the king's antechamber. His majesty ordered him to be admitted. The peasant, by way of expressing his acknowledgment, emptied his bag of turnips on a table; then, picking out a few small ones, he handed them to the queen, telling her that, if she would keep one of them in her mouth when she was spinning, it would help her to wet the thread properly. The queen was pleased with the good-natured familiarity of the man, and he was dismissed with a present."

The king's evening smoking-parties are droll affairs—something in the free-and-easy club line, with the variety of an absolute monarch as one of the practical jokers.

"The old prince of Anhalt, though he did not smoke, was obliged to keep a pipe in his mouth; and so was count Seckendorf, the imperial ambassador, who, in acquiescence with the king's rule, had learnt to puff so expertly with his lips as to have the appearance of a regular smoker. The pipes, a complete collection of which is still preserved in the Museum of Berlin, were short Dutch pipes of the most ordinary kind, and were kept in plain deal-boxes: those of the king were tipped with silver, and distinguished by carved work. They are so brown with smoking that they must have been a long time in use. The tobacco, light Dutch-leaf, stood on the table in little plaited baskets, and by them small fire-pans with burning turf for lighting the pipes. When a guest brought his own tobacco of a better sort, the king was very angry. Before each person were set a white jug with beer and a glass: each poured out for himself, as the servants were excluded. About seven o'clock, bread, butter, and cheese were brought, and sometimes ham and veal-cuttlets were set on a side-table, where each might help himself to what he pleased. Sometimes, too, the king treated his guests to a dish of fish and a salad dressed with his own hands. 'Before he killed the fish,' relates an eye-witness, 'he washed his hands; when

the pieces were in the pot, he washed again, in order to mix the salad with salt and vinegar, and again before he put the oil to it, and twice more before he dished the fish and sat down to the table.' On occasion of such a treat, he would send for Tokay, of which he had a large stock, of the finest quality, and of great age; although in general no other beverage was provided for the smokers but either Duckstein, Köpenick, or Swedish beer. A half-barrel was set up and tapped for every sitting. In Berlin the king's smoking-party assembled in a detached room on the bank of the Spree, on the spot which was afterwards the Parade; and the room itself was subsequently converted into a sculptor's workshop. The furniture of this room consisted of a long deal-table, with a bench on each side, of the same material, and at one end an arm-chair, as rude as all the rest, for the king. At the other end was another arm-chair, just like his majesty's, except that the back was surmounted by two large hare's ears, an emblem among the Germans of a court-jester or fool. This chair was thus decorated because it was reserved for an old servant, who was admitted into this company, where he acted the part of messenger and buffoon. Here Frederick William heard the anecdotes of the day, and communicated such facts as he had picked up or observed. Here, too, his companions strove to influence and to sway him according to their interests and passions. Thus this smoking-party became the focus of more or less important intrigues, into the secret of which the king was the only person who was not initiated.

The king, seeing that his companions rose for the prince royal, was extremely angry. He said that we were worshipping the rising sun; but he would let us know that he still lived and reigned. His valets were obliged to assist him to his apartment; and he sent word that he should all leave the palace, and not shew our faces there again. It was some time before his daily companions were re-admitted to his presence, but not without severe reprimands. The king told the duke of Holstein, he must not imagine that because he was a prince he could take greater liberties than any other; and that he, like the rest, should lose his head, if he continued to worship the rising sun. The king was particularly anxious to have in his evening society persons well versed in history, geography, and political science. French, Dutch, and German newspapers lay on the table; and the articles contained in them furnished subjects for conversation. The Berlin papers the king never read, because they contained nothing but articles copied from the foreign journals. At the beginning of his reign he even prohibited them, so that they were not published in 1713 and 1714. When the *Dutch Courant*, a paper very much read at that time, related that 'a flugelman of the tall grenadier guard had died at Potsdam, and on opening his body it was found to contain two stomachs, but no heart,' the king ordered a letter to be written to the editor, intimating that the account was quite correct, but one circumstance had been omitted, namely, that the deceased was a Dutchman. By way of variety, the king allowed a game at chess or draughts—cards were prohibited. He himself was accustomed to play at tocadille—a game played with dice, like backgammon,—with General Flanss, a Pomeranian nobleman of the roughest stamp. When the king once remarked to the general, that it was not right for them to play for nothing, like tailors, and that in future the game must be for a groschen

(11d.), Flanss replied, in his low German dialect, 'I shall do no such thing. Your majesty is ready to throw the dice at my head when we play for nothing; and how would it be if I were to play with you for money?' The king was fond of such jokes; and those who indulged in them were his most welcome companions. The duke of Holstein, whose manner was rather too assuming, learned also that it was dangerous to meddle with the general. The duke having one evening interrupted him in his usual pompous way, the general spread out the map of Europe before him, and, apologising for taking all the candles, pretended to be looking eagerly for some particular place. The king was curious to know what the general was seeking; and the latter replied, 'I am looking for the country of those dukes of Holstein; but it must be a confounded little scurvy spot, for I can't find it, though the gentleman does talk so big.' General Dockum was not less distinguished for his blunt answers. The conversation once turning on the book of Job, the king asked the general what he thought of the order given to Satan to report on Job's behaviour. 'Why,' replied he, 'I always thought it rather a strange proceeding of God Almighty: it was just the same as if your majesty were to come to Prussia to inspect my regiment, and to say to my provost, You fellow, what is your general about?' In such cases, bold pithy answers told best. A colonel who had just returned from Paris, and was invited to the smoking-party, was asked by the king what he thought of the royal family. 'Why, your majesty,' replied the officer, 'they are all little stuff for the third rank; none of 'em measures above five feet.'

The stories of Gundling, Fassmann, Stein, and others, the king's fools, are hardly credible in our age; but we have no doubt of their truth; and the reader will be astonished and entertained by them. That they were very bad jokes the following will testify:—

"A fool named Jäckel is related to have come to a very melancholy end. He assured the king that he knew a certain remedy for the gout, if he were only permitted to employ it. The king professed his readiness to give it a trial. Accordingly, in one of his walks, the fool, coming unawares upon his master, pushed him from a very narrow path into a deep piece of water. The king, who thought that the joke was carried rather too far, determined to repay it with another. He ordered the fool to be put under arrest, and a court-martial to be held upon him. The sentence was, that he should be beheaded, and that the execution should take place on the following day. Jäckel was conducted, amidst solemn preparations, to the spot where the offence was committed. He hoped for pardon, but in vain. The executioner stood ready. Jäckel was required to kneel down; he was blindfolded, and his neck bared. At a sign from the king, one of his retinue drew forth a fresh-made sausage, and struck the culprit with it on the neck. The fool, not prepared for any joke, dropped dead upon the ground: all endeavours to revive him proved unavailing."

The administration of justice affords us anomalies of, if possible, a more shocking description. After relating several instances, the author says,—

"Still more melancholy was the fate of Hesse, receiver-general of taxes in Prussia, who was sentenced by the criminal court to four years' confinement in a fortress, because he was unable to account for 4000 dollars, owing not to any dishonesty, but to irregularity of the books. When the sentence was submitted to the king for his confirmation, he wrote on the margin,

'A thief who steals ten dollars must, according to law, be hanged; but Hesse has robbed me of 4000 dollars, so he must hang.' He was accordingly executed in Berlin; but, on a revision of the case, it was found that several items had been wrongly charged to his account, and that there was no deficiency whatever; but this discovery was made too late. The king once decided in a directly contrary sense, when the point was to save a tall musqueteer of Dönhoff's regiment from the gallows. This man had been convicted of having a hand in breaking into a house and stealing 6000 dollars, and sentenced to be hanged. As soon as the sentence was pronounced, General Dönhoff went to the king, and represented to him that the court acted most unjustly, inasmuch as it condemned his flugelman to death on account of a few dollars, whereas it had recently acquitted a Prussian councillor of war, who cheated the king out of 30,000. 'This remonstrance,' says Benekendorf, who was himself a member of the criminal college, 'incensed the king to the highest degree: he immediately ordered the director and councillors of the criminal college to be summoned before him. All these gentlemen were still in their morning-gowns, and it was some time before they were fit to make their appearance. This delay increased the king's irritation; and when apprised that four of them were in attendance, he ordered them to be admitted without waiting for the rest. They found him sitting on his usual deal chair, with a stick in his hand. He commenced by stating very calmly the reason why he had sent for them, but followed up this explanation with the angry question, 'You scoundrels, why have you decided so?' One of them having begun to justify the sentence was cut short by a blow from the king's stick, which knocked out several of his teeth, while the others, with bleeding pates, made a precipitate retreat out of the room and down stairs, to the head of which the king pursued them with his stick.' The sentence, in this case, was not executed, though the king was otherwise extremely severe in the punishment of theft. In 1735, on account of the increasing dishonesty of servants, he promulgated an edict against domestic thieves, by which it was enacted, that 'every household servant, whether male or female, who should rob his or her employer to the amount of more than three dollars, should be hanged upon a gallows erected before the house in which the theft was committed.' This punishment was first inflicted on a servant of Von Happe's, minister of state and war, before whose door the gallows was actually set up and the culprit suspended. From his house the formidable machine moved to that of privy councillor Trutzetel, who had his cook-maid tied up for thieving three dollars twelve 'good groschen,' about twelve shillings English money. What hearts, I would ask, must such men as these ministers and privy-councillors have had? or rather, could they have had any hearts at all? Sometimes the sentence of the court was not even waited for, but the king decided the fate of an accused person by an order in his own handwriting, or by the simple marginal direction, 'Shall hang;' and, in such cases, his illegible scrawl was liable to occasion unlucky mistakes. General Glasenapp, commandant of Berlin, once sent a report to the king at Potsdam, of a disturbance made by the masons and bricklayers employed in building St. Peter's church, because they were required to work on blue, or, as we should call it, *saint* Monday. The king sent an order, written with his own hand, which the general read thus: 'Thou must have Rädcl hanged before I come.' The

only person in Berlin of the name of Ridel that he knew of was a lieutenant. He had him arrested, communicated to him the king's order, and sent a minister to prepare him for death. Directions were given for the execution, when, luckily, the commandant chanced to meet the cabinet-councillor Marschall, the only man who could decipher the king's writing with certainty. Marschall, on looking at the order, perceived that what the general had taken for 'Ridel früher,' [Ridel before], was actually 'Ridelsführer,' [ringleader]. The lieutenant was immediately liberated; the commandant set about seeking a ringleader from among the men who had been apprehended; and, one of these appearing to him more suspicious than the rest, on account of his red hair, he sent him to the gallows."

Some interesting particulars of the abortive attempt of the prince royal to escape from the brutal tyranny of his father are given in these pages; and an account from Count Seckendorff's papers throws additional light on that violent transaction. But, having introduced this publication as far as our limits and time permit, for the present we must leave off.

Narrative of a recent Imprisonment in China after the Wreck of the Kite. By John Lee Scott. 18mo, pp. 131. London, W. H. Dalton.

THIS simple narration, which is dedicated to the Lord Mayor, as the friend of mariners employed in the merchant-service, is written by an intelligent and observant young seaman from Shields, who was one of four apprentices on board the *Kite*, laden with military stores, when that vessel was wrecked off the coast of China, in the Yeang-tze-Keang river. Several of the crew, marines, and lascars, died of dysentery; Captain Noble the master was drowned; but his wife, and the majority of her unfortunate companions, were made prisoners, either from the wreck, or from one of the boats, in both of which conditions they were exposed to the utmost of sufferings and danger.

But the account of their treatment and adventures in China will possess more of curiosity for readers; and we shall accordingly condense the most novel particulars of their five months' captivity.

"We reached the shore (says our informant) about three in the morning; and the Chinese made signs to us, that if we would follow them, they would give us something to eat: we accordingly walked after them until we arrived at a small village, which consisted of a few miserable mud-huts, with but one respectable brick house; but from these few huts a swarm of men, women, and children, poured out on our approach. We were taken into an outhouse, one half of which was occupied by an immense buffalo, and in the other half was a cane-bed with mosquito-curtains; in one corner was a ladder, leading to a loft containing another couch. They now brought us some hot rice, and a kind of preserved vegetable: we contented ourselves with the rice and a basin of tea, the preserve being so exceedingly nasty we could none of us eat it. Whilst in this place, a Chinese, who seemed the superior of the village, and doubtless was the owner of the one brick house, brought a piece of paper written upon in Chinese characters, and made signs for one of us to write upon it; intimating, at the same time, that he had written some account of us on this paper, and that he wanted an account in our writing; which I accordingly gave him, stating the time and cause of our shipwreck, and also our present situation; hoping that he would take it to

the mandarin of the district, and that from him it might be forwarded to the authorities at Chusan, who might thus learn where we were, and take some steps for our return to the fleet. When it was broad daylight, we mentioned the name of Ningpo; and they made signs, that if we would go with them, they would shew us the way there; so we started, as we imagined, for Ningpo. Having no trousers, and my only clothing being a flannel-shirt, and a black-silk handkerchief round my head, which Twizell had given me when in the maintop, they gave me a piece of matting; but this proving rather an encumbrance than of any service, I soon threw it off, and walked on *sans culottes*. We passed in this style through a highly-cultivated country; on every side large plantations of cotton and rice, and various kinds of vegetables, but all unknown to me. Having gone six or seven miles, seeing very few houses, but crowds of people turning out of each as we passed, we at length arrived at a cross-road. Here another party of Chinese appeared, who absolutely forbade our proceeding any further; but as our guides went on, and beckoned us to follow, we pushed through our opponents and walked on; but they, having collected more men, headed us, and we were obliged to come to a standstill. In this case we found the want of a perfect understanding amongst ourselves; for the lascars were so frightened at their situation, that they fell on their knees before the Chinamen, which of course encouraged the latter, and before we could look around us, men rose up as it were from the ground, separated us, and made us all prisoners at once, with the exception of four, who ran off, though without any idea whither they should run, or what they should do. Here the *syprang** made a foolish attempt to cut his throat with a rusty old knife he had about him; but he only succeeded in tearing his flesh a little, for he was soon disarmed and pinioned. If, perhaps, we had all stood together, and put a bold face on the matter, though without any kind of arms, we might have gone quietly to the mandarin's, and then have been treated properly; but the conduct of the lascars emboldened our enemies, and we were seized, bound, and dragged off, almost before we knew where we were. As to those who ran away, they were obliged to give themselves up after a short run, and got a very severe beating, besides several wounds from the spears the Chinese were armed with."

From this time the usage of the prisoners was more severe; for Mr. Scott informs us:—

"At length we arrived at a large village, and here my first keeper left me, much to my regret, as, after he was gone, my hands, hitherto free, were made fast behind my back, and the cord being drawn as tight as possible, the flesh soon swelled and caused me great pain; another rope was put round my neck, by which they led me about. At times I gave myself up for lost; but still I could not fancy the Chinese to be so cruel a people as to murder us in cold blood, particularly after the manner in which we had fallen into their hands. I hardly knew what to think. My new keeper led me into the courtyard of a house, and made me fast to one of several pillars that supported a rude kind of verandah, dragging the rope as tight as he could; however, he brought me some water to drink, when I made signs for it. I had not been here long, when one of the Melville's people was brought in, and made fast to an opposite pillar; but we could not speak to, and could hardly see each other, as the yard was crowded

with people anxious to get a peep at us. After standing here some time, a man came and took me away to another house, where, in the yard, was a quantity of cotton, and in one corner, looking out of a window, a Chinese gentleman and lady, before whom my guide led me, and prostrated himself, wishing me to do the same; but I contented myself with bowing, upon which the gentleman waved his hand, and I was led to the backyard, where my guide brought me some rice and vegetables. I did not feel so grateful for my dinner as I perhaps ought, as I imagined this person had bought me for a slave. When I had finished my repast, I was led back, and, being made fast to a tree, was left exposed to the mercy of the mob, without a guard. The people amused themselves with making signs: some that my head would be cut off; others that I should not lose my head, but my eyes, tongue, nose, and all those little necessities, and then be sent away: a most unenviable state to be reduced to. I was kept here some time, surrounded by a number of ugly old women, who seemed to take a delight in teasing me; but the most active of my tormentors was neither old nor ugly, being a tall and well-made person; her feet were not so misshapen as the generality of her countrywomen's; in fact, she was the handsomest woman I saw in China. At last a man came, loosed me from the tree, and led me off to a little distance; and while one man brought a stone-block, another was sent away, as I imagined, for an axe or some such instrument: before this block I was desired to kneel, but this I refused to do, determined not to give up my life in so quiet a manner as they seemed to propose. The messenger returned shortly, the block was taken away, and I was led out of the village. Being now guarded by a dozen armed men, I was led along the banks of a canal until I came to a bridge, where I saw some of my companions in misfortune; I could only exchange a hurried word or two as they dragged me past, as I supposed, to the place of execution. I went on thus, with two more of the prisoners at some distance before me, stopping now and then, and imagining every stoppage to be the last, and that I should here be made an end of; but they still led me on, until we came to another village, or rather town, and I was taken to what appeared to me to be the hall of justice. I was led to the back-yard, and placed in a room half-filled with a heap of wood-ashes. Here I found three more of the crew in the same miserable condition as myself; but still, even here, we found some to feel for and relieve us a little,—for, on making signs that my hands were bound too tight, one of the Chinese loosened the bonds, and afterwards went out: returning shortly with a lapful of cakes, he distributed them amongst us, and then procured us some water, of which we stood in great need, as we had had a long march under a broiling sun. We had scarcely finished our cakes, when some of the soldiers came in, and took one of my fellow-prisoners just outside the door: as I could observe almost all that passed, it was with feelings of the most unpleasant nature that I saw him made to kneel, and directly surrounded by the soldiers; one of whom came in and took away a basketful of the ashes. I now supposed that we had in reality come to the last gasp; I fancied my companion's head was off, and that the ashes were taken out to serve in the place of sawdust to soak up his blood. I was not long kept in suspense; for the door opened, and some soldiers entered, who forced me to get up, and go out into the yard. I now took it for

* The chief of the lascars.

granted that my hour was really come; but, to my great relief, they had only brought me out to fetter me. They put irons on my hands and feet, those on my ankles being connected by a chain of five or six links, and an iron collar round my neck, with a stick fast to it, which was also made fast by a padlock to my handcuffs. I hardly knew whether to rejoice or not at this prolongation of my life, as I might be kept in this condition a short time, only to suffer a more lingering death in the end. When my irons were on and rivetted, I was led into the outer yard, now crowded with people, and again tied up to a post. On looking around me, I saw my companion, who had been led out before me, fastened in a similar manner to the post opposite; and in a short time they brought the other two, and made them fast to the corresponding corner-pillars. We remained a short time exposed to the insults of the lower orders, who amused themselves with pulling our hair, striking us with their pipes, spitting in our faces, and annoying us in all the petty ways they could think of. At last our guards came, and led us to a small room by the side of the gate, where we again had some rice. Here I saw a Chinaman prisoner ironed in exactly the same way as we were."

Haunted by terrors, and covered with contumely and insult, our unhappy countrymen were dragged along the country, or pinioned in boats on canals. On one point they rejoined their companions, who were separated from them as above related, and the writer says—

"The soldiers led us across one or two yards into a joshouse. By the light from the torches, I could distinguish, in a place railed off from the rest of the building, some people lying apparently asleep. At first I imagined them to be Chinese; but to my amazement and great joy, I soon discovered this party to consist of Webb and Wombwell, and those who had left the wreck in the other junk, and of whose fate we had hitherto been in ignorance. In consequence of some misunderstanding, they had been most severely beaten by the Chinese; and from the effects of this beating two of the marines had died on their way from the coast to this town. Though dead when they arrived, the Chinese had, nevertheless, put irons on the bodies. The corporal of marines had been so ill treated, that he could not move without assistance; and, in fact, they had all experienced worse treatment than our party. There were now missing only the four who had run off when the Chinese stopped us at the crossway. Of Mrs. Noble, and those in the jolly-boat, we of course knew nothing; but hoped that they might have escaped the Chinese, and managed to reach Chusan. Having related our different stories, and consoled each other in the best way we could, we lay down on some loose straw for the night, and notwithstanding our miserable condition, we slept soundly."

Mrs. Noble, however, and Lieut. Douglas had been captured; and the whole, thinned by the deaths, were afterwards fellow-prisoners at Ningpo, with Captain Anstruther. But we return to the narrative—

"Breakfast was brought in early, consisting of sweet cakes and tea. When we had finished, two wooden cages were brought; the Chinese lifted one of our men into each, and carried them outside the gate, to be looked at by the common people; whilst the gentlemen and better class, with their families, were admitted about two dozen at a time, to look at us who remained inside: sometimes we were visited by a party consisting entirely of women; they were a remarkably plain set, their pretensions

to beauty, in their own eyes, appearing to lie in having the face painted red and white, and the feet distorted into a hoof-like shape. After keeping those in the cages outside for about two hours, they were brought in, and two fresh ones were taken out. Those who came in told us that the bodies of our two poor fellows, who had been killed the day before, were lying outside on the grass, with the fetters still on. Fortunately it soon began to rain heavily, when the other two were brought in, and the crowd gradually dispersed. About noon we had our dinner; one basin-full of rice and vegetables, and cakes and tea as before. Our jailors would never give us plain water; but whenever we asked for anything to drink, brought us weak tea. For supper we had cakes and tea again; and, after this last meal, lay down on our straw for the night."

But the worst of the caging was yet to come; for, shortly after, every individual was permanently confined in one of his own, wooden and portable, in which, Mr. Scott tells us,—

"We had neither room to stand, sit, nor lie, so that we were obliged to place ourselves in a dreadfully cramped position. Some few of the cages had a hole cut in the lid, large enough to allow the top of the head to pass out: into one of these I was fortunate enough to get; but those who were not so lucky, had the misery of sitting with their heads on one side, to add to their other discomforts. Afterwards I was put into one without a hole, and miserable was my position. When we were all stowed in our separate cages, we were carried down to the side of the canal, and placed in boats, two cages in each boat, attended by a mandarin-officer and several soldiers. My companion was a marine, one who had come ashore in the junk with Webb and Wombwell, and was still suffering from the effects of his beating, besides being almost dead with dysentery. We lay alongside the quay till nearly midnight, the soldiers and other people constantly running backwards and forwards on shore, with torches and gongs, shouting and making a great noise. About midnight we shoved off, and started down the canal; but as the junk was covered over, and it was very dark, I could see nothing of the country."

Of himself he says,— "Our bearers again made their appearance, and mine, shouldering the cage, marched off, and I was once more exposed to the mercies of the mob; the soldiers, our guard, never making the slightest attempt to keep the people off. Fortunately for me, I had had my hair cut close only a few days before we were wrecked, so that there was little or nothing to lay hold of; for the people on one side would pull my hair to make me look their way, and those on the other side would instantly pull again, to make me look round at them; and I, being ironed, hands, feet, and neck, could not offer the least resistance, but was obliged to sit very patiently, or, in other words, to grin and bear it."

I now had an opportunity of speaking to Twizell and the others who had run away, and was sorry to hear that two of them (marines) had received several spear-wounds, and that all four had been severely bamboced when taken. They had travelled by land all the way from the coast in the cages, having been put into them the day after we were all captured, and had been two days sooner in their cages than our party. The corporal of marines, who was seriously ill of the dysentery, was lying on his back in the bottom of his cage, whilst his legs were raised up in the air, and his heels resting on the upper ledge, the lid being thrown back.

He had entirely lost his senses, and was evidently dying fast; the maggots were crawling about him, and the smell that came from him was dreadful. Fettered as we were, we could afford him no assistance; and the Chinese merely looked at him, and then walked off, holding their noses."

At length they were incarcerated in a prison at Ningpo, crowded and filthy, and swarming with vermin. They were allowed plenty of provision, principally fine white rice; and were, upon the whole, not unkindly treated by their jailors and guards, upon whom, indeed, they soon began (by way of amusing themselves) to play sailors' tricks. Other bits of fun are thus described:—

"During this time we were sometimes amused with a fight in the yard, between two of the soldiers—a most unpleasant kind of combat; for they seized hold of each other's tails with one hand, and dragging the head down almost to the ground, clawed and scratched with the other hand, till the one with the weakest tail rolled over and gave in. We always tried to get out, and see fair play; but the soldiers mustered too strong at these times. Sometimes, again, a drunken soldier would make his appearance, and, coming to the window, afford us a little amusement; for, getting hold of his tail, we made it fast to the grating, and then left him to get loose as he could. Generally one of his comrades, attracted by his bellowing, came and released him. All this was not very edifying employment; but it served to pass the time, which, having no books or employment, hung very heavily on our hands. The weather now changed, and the winter set in. We were glad to put on our thick clothes, which we found very comfortable, except that they afforded a great harbour to the vermin: this was, however, by this time, only a secondary consideration, as the cold weather had rendered them very torpid, and they did not bite so hard. We had only two meals a day, morning and evening; and these being soon settled, and not being allowed anything in the middle of the day, we made bags of our old clothes, and at breakfast-time filled them with rice, when the servants were out of the room, and stowed them away for a mid-day meal. The servants discovered it once or twice; but we generally managed to secrete some rice from our breakfast. The Chinese used now to carry about little teapots, full of hot water, at the spouts of which they were constantly sipping; and also a kind of salamander, an oblong brass vessel, with a handle to it, and filled with hot water: in the lid were several small holes, and the steam coming through kept them warm. They carried these things either in their long loose sleeves, or, sitting down, placed their feet upon them; but I should have imagined that the steam would have warmed their clothes, and rather chilled than damped them. About this time, having got rather free and easy with our jailors, one of our party slipped out into the passage, whilst the servants were removing the rice and dishes, and brought in the piece of bamboo and stick which the watch used at night. In the evening we saw the soldiers searching for it; but we kept quiet till dark, and then we began to keep watch ourselves; but the noise soon brought our jailer in, who took the bamboo away, threatening to put us in irons. This threat made but little impression; for, a short time after, another of the party walked off with a teapot belonging to one of the soldiers. This we kept for several days, till the owner found out where it was; but we would not give it up unless he paid for it; and as our jailer and his

own comrades only laughed at him, we obliged him to redeem his teapot with a hundred or more pice, much to his dissatisfaction."

An affecting and characteristic picture is thus drawn:—

"One morning, about the latter end of November, we were surprised by the appearance of the moving board, and expected that we were to be taken away again, when, to our great amazement, one of the marines that we had left in the prison walked in, looking stout and well; but after him came, or rather was carried, the other, a most horrid spectacle, a moving skeleton, with the skin stretched tightly over his bones; his eyes were sunk deep in his head, and his voice was awfully hollow; he was the most melancholy sight I ever saw. When on board the ship, he was a stout, well-made man, and now how dreadfully changed! he had come up merely to die with his old companions. The other had been very ill indeed, but (owing to a good constitution, and the kindness and attentions of Mrs. Noble, who did all that possibly lay in her power to alleviate their sufferings) he had got over his sickness, and was now in a fair way for recovery. They brought notes from Lieut. Douglas and Mrs. Noble, promising us some money. The marines had received their pice, and ours were to come the next day, which they accordingly did; four hundred pice for each of the white men, and three hundred for each of the lascars. I now began to learn a little of the language; and found out the names of several things in the eating way; such as pork, beef, and all sorts of cakes, and the celebrated bird's nest soup, which, by-the-by, was uncommonly good; these things we were enabled to buy with the money we had received. This evening the doctor came and looked at the sick man, and shortly after his visit, one of the servants brought him a dose, which he took. That night this old servant was constantly at our window, with a lantern, to look at the sick person. Towards morning the marine became much worse, and lost his senses, and soon after he died. He was no sooner dead than the servant, who had been watching very narrowly at the window, came in, and rolling the body up in a long coat, and taking it by the arms, threw it on his back; and, making signs for one of the Melville's boys to keep the legs off the ground, they walked off with him through the gate, and some way into the town, till they came to an open space, where there was a shed with some straw in it. Here he laid the body down, and, covering it decently with the coat, made the boy understand that it would be buried that night. There were now only two left of the seven marines who came on board of the Kite from the Melville; and it was not long before one of these was taken ill; he soon became so bad, that he was obliged to be moved out of our room, and we hoped he might be taken down to the jail, where he would have better attendance, and the advantage of Mrs. Noble's kindness. Our jailer and attendants made signs to this effect, but they moved him only to another part of the joshouse. He had received several spear-wounds when he was taken, which had never properly healed; and, when attacked by the dysentery, these wounds broke out afresh, and reduced him to a dreadful state; and it was not long before we heard of his death. There was now only one marine left."

At last, in consequence of the brief peace between the countries, the surviving prisoners were dismissed to return to Chusan. They were carried to the river-side in open sedans; and we read:—

"The people in the villages turned out, everywhere in great numbers, to stare at us. The crops were in some places beginning to make their appearance, and almost every inch of ground was cultivated; all that appeared bad unprofitable land was covered with tombs, and particularly the sides of the hills; in summer, the white tombs peeping out from the high grass and shrubs would have a very picturesque effect. The coffins were placed on the ground, and some were covered over with bamboo and matting; a very slight defence, which in many instances had given way, and left parts of the coffins exposed; other graves had square tombs over them, built of brick, and covered with a slab of red stone; but in some of these the bricks had given way, and the slab falling in on the coffin, had burst it open: others, being, I suppose, for the superior class, were built entirely of stone, curiously and rather tastefully ornamented. The coffins being made of slight materials, the smell on passing the burial-places was very unpleasant. We continued our journey, sometimes walking, sometimes in the sedan, the officers scarcely ever allowing the bearers to rest, and indeed beating them severely with sticks, and their heavy sheathed swords, if they stopped for even a moment without leave. The old jailer was with us, in a sedan; and seeing us walking, he spoke to the officer commanding the party, who came and made signs for us to get into the sedans; but it was far too cold for an open carriage, and besides, after so long a confinement, the walk was agreeable. About dusk we came to the gate of another city, walled round in the same manner as Ningpo. We passed through several streets till we came to a large joshouse, before which a number of people were assembled. We went into the outer court, and perceived, by the sedans, that many mandarins and other officers were within. Passing through a building in which were four colossal figures, about twenty feet high, and painted in Chinese style, we came to another yard, out of which Mrs. Noble and Mr. Witt were taken in sedans just as we entered. I heard them speaking; but they went past so quickly, that by the time I had jumped out of my sedan, they were gone. I saw Lieut. Douglas and Captain Anstruther, who told me that we were all to be released immediately, and that Mrs. Noble and Mr. Witt had already started for Chusan, whither we were to follow as soon as possible. The interpreter then made his appearance, and desired me to follow him; this I did, and soon found myself in the grand hall of the temple, in the presence of a number of mandarins and other officers. The other prisoners were here; and another interpreter, whom I had never seen before, came round and asked our names and country; he could also speak Bengalee, and therefore interpreted for the lascars. They then took the iron off the lascars' legs; and after the mandarins had looked at us for a short time, they took their departure, leaving us, with a few officers, in the temple. I now had time to look about; and found I was in a large hall, in the centre of which were three colossal figures, gilded all over, very much resembling in appearance the Hindostanee idols; under them was a smaller figure of a woman, painted in gaudy colours, and on each side of her a small model of a temple. Round the hall were other images, placed in niches; and amongst them, I particularly noticed one of a woman, with a glory round her head, and holding a child in her arms, bearing altogether a strong resemblance to the Virgin and Child. Two others sat

side by side, of rather singular appearance, one having a black face and hands, with a white dress, and the other a white face and hands and a black dress. Several torches were placed in different parts of the wall; and the flickering light from these, glancing over the gilded images and the rich dresses of the officers, contrasted with our miserable appearance, produced rather a singular scene."

They were soon embarked, and restored to life and liberty; or rather, to the use of their limbs and the service of their country. Besides the above picturesque mention of objects of worship, we find another statement, which, little as prisoners immured in cages or bare walls could observe, is worthy of extract, as affording a new trait of a people so little understood as the Chinese. Mr. Scott says:—

"In our close confinement we could see nothing of their religious ceremonies; once or twice, however, I saw our old jailer making his offerings to his gods. The domestics having placed three tables in different parts of the yard (one being exactly before our window), ranged round the edge of each nine basins, with chopsticks to all; they then filled the cups with hot rice, and covered the tables with plates of pork, fish, and vegetables, and by the side of every table placed a pile of thin paper. Before each of these tables the old gentleman knelt three times, bowing his head to the ground thrice each time; after this he filled a small cup with samshu, and setting fire to the heap of paper, sprinkled the samshu over the blaze. When he had prostrated himself before all the tables, and burnt the three heaps, he retired to his apartment, and the servants removed the whole apparatus. I suppose his devotions had made him charitable; for all the good things he had prepared for his deities he distributed amongst us poor prisoners."

This little volume, we need scarcely add, ought to be as popular as any production of the day. Its unaffected simplicity and truth greatly increase the interest of its facts, which are affecting as they relate to the sufferers, and curious in what they unfold respecting their captors.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Recreation for 1842. Pp. 322. Edinburgh, Menzies; London, Tilt and Bogue.

A VERY agreeable collection of literary gems, which (like the preceding volumes of the same genus) are well calculated to delight every reader by their variety and excellence.

The Christian Souvenir. Edited by the Rev. C. B. Tayler, author of "May You Like It." The Scripture Illustrations by the Rev. T. Dale. London, Tilt and Bogue.

TWELVE Scriptural subjects by various eminent artists, ancient and modern, and in general excellently engraved (chiefly by foreign engravers), are the embellishments of this handsomely got-up volume; and the names on the title-page, Tayler and Dale, with which are joined, in the body of the work, those of the Rev. C. Hare, Townshend, Archdeacon Wrangham, Dr. W. S. Gilly, and other distinguished writers, are a sufficient guarantee for the talent and fervent piety of the letter-press. It is indeed an offering to the religious world well deserving of acceptance.

The Token and Atlantic Souvenir for 1842. Boston, D. H. Williams; London, Wiley and Putnam, Tilt and Bogue.

THE *Token*, this year, is in a transition state, and hardly edited beyond the zealous and not unsuccessful exertions of its publisher. It

would, therefore, be uncandid to criticise it till it gets into full sweep for next season. The landscape embellishments are superior to the figures; and the whole, though got up in haste, is no discredit to the taste, skill, arts, and literature of Boston.

Poems by William Cowper: with a biographical and critical Introduction, by the Rev. T. Dale, &c. 2 vols. Tilt and Bogue.

We incidentally alluded to this charming edition of Cowper (No. 1293); but its merits demand a more definite notice. No fewer than seventy-five engravings by Orrin Smith, from drawings by John Gilbert, are the sweet and characteristic embellishments of these volumes, and tend to the desirable purpose of renewing the public acquaintance (where it has suffered through time) with one of the most delightful of England's poets. An excellent introductory memoir, from the pen of Mr. Dale, completes the interest of these volumes: and every lover of poetry, moral instruction, the inculcation of the best principles, elegance and grace in style, and originality of thought, owes a debt of gratitude to the spirited publishers for producing so attractive an edition of a justly admired and universally favourite bard.

Merric England in the Olden Time. By George Daniel. 2 vols. Bentley.

A REPLICATION, in integrity, of a series of papers which have been popular in Bentley's *Miscellany*. Their views of ancient manners, &c., are graphic and entertaining; and though they appear as Daniel for the second time, they are by no means unworthy of a second Daniel. They are nice volumes of light reading for winter evenings.

Lights and Shadows of London Life. By the Author of "Raudom Recollections," &c. &c. 2 vols. Saunders and Otley.

In the author's accustomed manner of rambling about London, and picking up stray matters here and there—sometimes right, we suppose, and often wrong. Begging-impostors, eating-houses, sempstresses, quackery, servants, public vehicles, &c. &c., are all treated of in Mr. Grant's usual way; and a good many tradespeople are noticed in the honourable, and perhaps profitable, fashion of puff. The book may furnish some curious reading to the unobservant about London; and, indeed, the multitude are so occupied with their own affairs, that the observant class is inconceivably small. *Ergo*, our author may hope for his wonted patronage.

Chambers's Educational Course. Parts I. and II. Music. Edinburgh, W. and R. Chambers; London, Orr and Co.; Dublin, Curry; Glasgow, McLeod.

WE are afraid we are late in noticing these excellent rudimental teachers of vocal music. *Parts and Nos.* are in such abundance that they often perplex us; and, like the philosophers of Laputa, we often stand sadly in need of flappers to remind us if we have seen the beginning of such publications—if we have had them regularly—if we have had them at all—if they are divisions of a general design or designs in themselves—and, alas for memory and time for reference, if we have expressed our opinion of any specimen in the *Literary Gazette*, and forgotten our own good works.

The Hand-Book of Grammar, for English, German, French, and Italian Students; shewing, in one View, the Construction peculiar to each Language. 18mo, above 235 pages. London, Rodwell.

This comparative grammar (with very useful tabular views of conjugations, folded into a

portfolio in the boards) is an able compilation, and may be consulted with benefit by those who are somewhat familiar with the languages whose construction it illustrates. It also shews many niceties in them all; but we are not sure that learners would look to a work of the kind for their explanation.

The Adventures of a Soldier; or, Memoirs of E. Costello, K.S.F., formerly a non-commissioned Officer in the Rifle Brigade, and late Captain in the British Legion. Pp. 410. Colburn.

THE *United Service Journal* has been enlivened by many, if not all these personal sketches of an adventurous life; the writer having served in the Rifles during the Peninsular war, and afterwards in Col. de Lacy Evans' force in the north of Spain. The broad *General* features of war are presented to us by official despatches and history; but the *Private* and detailed particulars can only be caught up from narratives like this. Foraging, pillaging, drinking, punishing, skirmishing, billeting, courting, fighting, laughing, rollicking, suffering, and dying, are all described in a *lively* style; and though such things are better in pieces than in volumes, Captain Costello's account of himself and comrades may be taken in hand now and then with pleasure.

An Inquiry into the Causes and Modes of the Wealth of Individuals; or, the Principles of Trade and Speculation explained. By Thomas Corbet, Esq. Pp. 256. Smith, Elder, and Co. CONTAINS a vast quantity of useful and practical information, which well deserves the attention of the public. There are also opinions on all the important questions brought forward, which, whether assented to or controverted, are no less worthy of grave consideration.

British Butterflies, and their Transformations. Arranged and illustrated in a series of Plates by H. N. Humphreys, Esq.; with Characters and Descriptions by J. O. Westwood, Esq., F.L.S. London, W. Smith.

Forty-two plates of an endless variety of the beautiful denizens of our fields and gardens during the glad summer, coloured to the life, constitute this very valuable work, which has been some time in the course of publication in monthly parts. Each plate is accompanied by a short and popular description from the pen of Mr. Westwood; but the title is so ample, that we need only enlarge upon it to say, that a copious and well-arranged index, and handsome illuminated title-page, add at once to the value and beauty of a very valuable and beautiful work.

Julian; or, Scenes in Judaea. By the Author of "Letters from Palmyra and Rome." 2 vols. New York, C. S. Francis; Boston, J. H. Francis; London, Wiley and Putnam.

WE must say that, highly as we thought of the author's former work, as a *refinement* of ancient customs and manners, we are so revolted by his choice of subject in this, that we must utterly condemn it in all its parts. *Scenes in Judaea*, which are related by Julian, a Jew of Rome, with originally great prejudices against his nation and religion—but ending, as if by a common catastrophe, with the crucifixion of Jesus Christ,—is assuredly unfit for publication in a Christian community.

The Christian Offering, Sacred and Miscellaneous. By George B. Scott, author of "The Beauties of Holiness," &c. &c. Pp. 301. (G. Virtue).—A collection of the author's lyrical compositions and prose pieces, embellished with engravings, in the form of an Annual. Great variety and talent do credit to these pages, and recommend the writer, both for head and heart, to very favourable consideration.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE NIGER EXPEDITION.

FARTHER accounts, dated 19th of September, but reaching to the 22d, have been received of the Niger Expedition, which had, at the former date, ascended the river to the confluence of the Tchadda and Quorra (the scene of one of Captain W. Allen's beautiful lithographic views: see *Lit. Gaz.* a few months back); and at this point determined upon a change of operations. The original plan, to be guided, however, by events, was that the steamers should proceed in company; but circumstances have led to a resolution, that the Prince Albert, Captain Trotter, should ascend the Quorra, and the Wilberforce, Captain W. Allen, should navigate the Tchadda. The Soudan, Captain Bird Allen, had returned down the river with invalids; for we regret to say considerable sickness had prevailed, in spite of all the precautions taken to prevent it; and eight Europeans, sailors, had died since the expedition left England. Captains Trotter and B. Allen had both kept their health; but Captain W. Allen had been ill, but was recovered.

The sickness which attacked the crews attended the vessels all the way up to Attah, about 200 miles; above which we do not hear that it continued; whilst the Prince Albert and Wilberforce made their way up the additional 70 miles to the site we have indicated as the junction of the two grand branches; viz., the Quorra or Niger, flowing from nearly the north or N.N. west, and the Tchadda or Chad from the eastward. The Soudan, from Attah, had got down to the coast in three days, and providentially found the Dolphin, Lieut. Littlehales, cruising off the mouth of the river, and put the sick on board; to be carried, we believe, to the Isle of Ascension.

Such is the latest intelligence received.

A previous letter from Mr. Cyrus Wakeman, the purser of one of the steamers, states that the patent prepared potatoes, of which the *Lit. Gaz.* spoke as likely to be so useful in such voyages, had turned out an invaluable blessing in affording fresh and nutritive provision for the ships' companies.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

Nov. 15. — First meeting. Lieut.-Col. Sykes, vice-president, in the chair. A long list of donations received during the recess was reported. Three new fellows were elected, and eight proposed for admission.

A paper "On the practical operation of the Scotch system of management of the poor," by Dr. Alison, was read. In speaking of the poor, the author refers to those persons who have not a sufficient supply of the necessities of life, and are inadequately clothed, and obliged to herd together in large numbers for the sake of fuel and shelter. He conceives that the term pauperism can only be applied to that part of the community to which a legal provision is extended; and that, therefore, in countries where the laws and usages as to the management of the poor are very different, the meaning and force of the term varies. Thus, when an Englishman is told that in Scotland the paupers do not average more than 4 per cent of the population, and in some places do not constitute 1 per cent, instead of nearly 9 per cent as in England, and that the cost of the poor, as proportioned to the population, is not more than 1s. 2d. per head in the former country, and nearly 6s. a head in the latter, he is apt to infer that the management of the poor is much better in Scotland than in England;

and it is particularly deserving of notice, that it was by this apparently simple, but, as the author justly remarks, very superficial mode of judging, that the opinion lately so prevalent in England, of the superiority of the Scotch mode of management, was produced. If, however, the object of inquiry be to know in which country "the greatest happiness of the greatest number" is best provided for, that inference is at once set aside, when we find that in England the greater number of paupers suffer none of the miseries of destitution. The author is therefore of opinion, that in an advanced state of society, when there is no effective legal provision for the poor, a large amount of unrelieved, or but imperfectly relieved, destitution will be found; that the consequence is degradation, and that from the latter will proceed improvidence, recklessness, and thereby a morbid increase of population; so that in such a country, not only the sufferings of the poor, but ultimately the numbers of the suffering poor, become much greater than they have ever been found in those countries where an effective legal provision, even if injudiciously administered, exists. The Dr. then proceeds to illustrate his position by various statistical returns, from which we select the following. The number of persons supplied from the parochial funds at Peterhead, is 371; rather less than 5 per cent of the population (which is about 8000), but not comprising the whole of the destitute poor. The sum expended on paupers in 1840, from the parish-funds, was 361*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*, from which, deducting 20*l.* 6*s.* 9*d.* paid to strangers, and 6*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.* for coffins, leaves 334*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.*, or rather more than 1*d.* a day to each individual. To this, however, must be added the proceeds of their labour, amounting to 559*l.* 9*s.*, and donations from charitable societies, 115*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*; together, 675*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*; from which, deducting payment of rent, 384*l.* 3*s.* 8*d.*, leaves 291*l.* 0*s.* 10*d.*, to be added to the 334*l.* 4*s.* 5*d.* furnished by the parish, making 625*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* the entire income of 371 persons for a year, or about 1*d.* per day for each individual, for the purchase of food, fuel, clothing, and all other necessities. A great number of paupers follow the practice of begging, and are even licensed to do so, but on Fridays only; and there are other modes of mendicancy regularly practised. Many persons allege that the allowance to paupers is kept purposely very low, in order to stimulate them to exertion; but the doctor is of opinion that this is wholly unsuccessful. It is worthy of notice, that while such is the wretched provision made for paupers, the wages of labourers are from 8*s.* to 10*s.* a week, and those of an artisan from 12*s.* to 14*s.* The author next adverts to the invariable fact of fever accompanying destitution; and brings forward several interesting details. Among which is the following:—In 1838, a year remarkable for the prevalence of fever in England, the proportion of deaths from this disease to the whole mortality was,—in London, 7·7 per cent; Manchester, 7·7; Liverpool, 6·9; Birmingham, 5; Leeds, 3·6; while in Glasgow, the mortality from fever, on an average of seven years, ending in 1840, was 11·8 per cent.

The author concludes by stating, that, from all these and other evils, he is convinced that protection against destitution is of paramount importance, and that the poor of Scotland far fare worse off than those of England, Holland, or Germany.

An interesting paper "On the Burman empire," by Col. Burney, was brought before the

meeting: from which it appears that the population of that empire, which was computed by the old geographers at 30,000,000, was in 1826 only 4,230,000, divided as follows:—city of Ava, including villages subordinate to it, 111,000; city of Amarapura and adjoining villages, 91,000; city of Isagerin and villages, 83,000; the remaining district in Burmah Proper and Pegu, 2,015,818.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

NOTICE of the second paper read at the meeting held on the 17th November.

Letter from Mr. Lyell to Dr. Fitton, "On some of the phenomena connected with the coal-measures and older strata of Pennsylvania."

Mr. Lyell's attention, from the period of his arrival in America to the date of this communication (15th October), had been principally devoted to the great succession of Silurian, Devonian, and carboniferous rocks of Pennsylvania and New York; but he confines his present remarks more particularly to the phenomena presented by the coal-measures, and the extension to America of Mr. Logan's generalisations respecting the beds of fire-clay containing stigmata, which occur beneath each stratum of coal in the Glamorganshire coal-field.

Mr. Lyell first visited the collieries of Blossberg, on the extreme northern frontier of Pennsylvania; and in the examination of which he was assisted by Dr. Saynisch, president of the mines. The strata, both in detail and as a whole, bear an exact analogy to British coal-measures; and he found beneath every seam, except one, a bed of fire-clay varying from one to six feet in thickness, and containing abundance of stigmata, with their leaves attached to the stems. All the specimens seen *in situ*, with one exception, were parallel to the planes of stratification; but the leaves penetrated the clay in all directions. The roof of the coal-seams is usually composed of bituminous shales; but sometimes of very micaceous grits, which afford a great variety of ferns and other plants, all of them agreeing, generally at least, with those common in British coal-measures.

Mr. Lyell afterwards examined the anthracite deposits at Pottsville, in the southern part of the Alleghenies, under the guidance of Prof. H. D. Rogers; also the coal-field of Tamaque, the Lehigh-summit mine, the Room-Run mines on the Nesquehoning, and the Beacon Meadow or Middle coal-field; in all of which districts he found, beneath each coal-seam, a bed of fire-clay containing stigmata, and in the overlying sandstone, or roof, various species of ferns. Mr. Logan has likewise lately made a series of independent observations on the carboniferous deposits of North America; and Mr. Lyell announced that that gentleman has found beds of fire-clay with stigmata, under the coal-seams of Nova Scotia. The Pottsville district, and the Lehigh-summit mines, were illustrated by sections given to Mr. Lyell by Prof. H. D. Rogers, who has been engaged during five years in the government geological survey of Pennsylvania. The former section extended from the north of Pottsville to the country ranging immediately south of Orwigsburg. At the point where Mr. Lyell's examination commenced, the coal-measures are vertical; but in an excavation from which the anthracite had been removed, the bed occupying the position of the under-clay presented impressions of stems and leaves of stigmata, unaccompanied, as usual, by any other plants; and the stratum which represented the roof of coal con-

tained leaves of pectopteris, reed-like impressions, and calamites. To the south of these vertical measures is a deposit, inclined at an equally high angle, of quartzose conglomerate, beds of which alternate with seams of anthracite at the junction of the two deposits. Proceeding farther southward, there are displayed successively, 1. a vast series of red shale, grey sandstone and red sandstone, which Mr. Lyell considers as portions of the old red sandstone; and, 2. olive-coloured shales, with Devonian fossils, the strata of the whole of which are nearly vertical. Yet further south, and at a short distance from Orwigsburg, the olive-shales are succeeded by highly inclined strata, assigned by Mr. Lyell to the upper Silurian rocks, and through which protrudes an axis of beds, considered by him to be composed of lower Silurian strata. Lastly, on the southern confines of the section is a trough of Devonian or olive-coloured shales. The above geological classification differs from that of previous observers; but Mr. Lyell has been induced to propose it in consequence of an examination of a portion of the State of New York, subsequently to his visit to Pottsville. At the "Lehigh-summit mines" a bed of anthracite, more than forty feet thick, is quarried in open day, forty feet of sandstone being entirely removed to work the coal. With respect to the long-observed fact, that the anthracite coal is confined to the Atlantic side of the Alleghenies, and the bituminous to the more inland and less disturbed region; and with respect to the supposition that the former belonged to the transition, and the latter to the secondary period,—Mr. Lyell states that both varieties clearly overlie the old red sandstone, and contain the same vegetable remains; and he is of opinion that the change from the bituminous to the anthracitic condition was a concomitant of the upheaval and folding of the rocks, the conversion being most complete where the beds have been most disturbed.

Mr. Lyell has also examined the cretaceous strata of New Jersey, accompanied by Mr. Conrad; and he states that the fossils which he collected from its different members bear a striking analogy with those of the equivalent series of Europe, especially of the *crata-tufo* of Normandy. He has likewise examined, in company with Prof. Silliman, the new red and intrusive trap in Connecticut; and lastly, he has visited the falls of Niagara, and is of opinion that he can prove their recession by new arguments, drawn from the position of a fluvial deposit, which he has traced below the cataract.

MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY.

Nov. 24.—Mr. N. B. Ward in the chair. A paper was read from the Rev. J. B. Reade, entitled "A postscript to the Rev. J. B. Reade's paper on the process of charring vegetable tissue, as applied to the stomata in garden-rhubarb." The experiments of Dr. Thomas Williams, communicated to the society in August last, appeared to lead to the conclusion that the process of charring was of very doubtful efficacy in determining delicate structure; and that the overlying membrane in stomata was really nothing more than an inspissation of gelatinous mucus, raised by heat into contact with the glass, and by the pressure extending as a carbonised pellicle from one edge of the aperture to the other. In support of Mr. Reade's view, there was forwarded with the communication a portion of cuticle, which, after having been immersed in alcohol, distilled water, and dilute hydrochloric acid, was, when perfectly dry, examined

by a high power, and the membrane was distinctly seen; it was still more evident after the process of charring, so conducted as to obviate all error arising from pressure. The tissue was placed on a slip of glass, and submitted to the action of heat without being covered by another slip. Thus both the supposed sources of error were avoided; the one by the previous removal of organic mucus, and the other by a different manipulation. The paper was accompanied with sketches of the stomata by Mr. Aldous; the power employed was about 2000 linear; and the author concluded by stating that Dr. Williams, after seeing the membrane under this power, immediately approved of the process which rendered it so distinctly visible.

A second paper was read, descriptive of three species of sponge, containing some new forms of organisation, by J. S. Bowerbank. The first specimen described is a *halichondria*, which the author has named *Johnstoniana*, in honour of Dr. Johnston of Berwick-on-Tweed. The sponge is sessile, massive, and has a smooth encrusted surface of a dark iron-grey colour; the interior is of a dull yellow colour, and much resembles the crumb of bread. This sponge is remarkable for the great variety in the forms of the silicious spicula; of which the author describes three distinct kinds, each of which is characteristic of a separate part of the animal; 1st, those of the skeleton, which are mostly simple and slightly curved, having hemispherical terminations, but occasionally they are tri-radiate or multi-radiate, and frequently branched—2d, those of the interstitial fleshy matter of the sponge; these are minute stellate bodies, having their rays attenuating regularly to their apices, the number of the rays varying from three to ten or twelve—3d, the spicula of the crust, or surface of the sponge; they are very minute, somewhat fusiform, terminate abruptly, and have their surfaces regularly tuberculated. The author also describes a fine vascular tissue which he observed on the surfaces of the great excurrent canals. The gemmules are oval bodies, having a silicious crust which is filled with minute spicula. This species was found attached to the Thatcher rock, near Torquay, Devon.

The second sponge described belongs to the new genus *Duseideia*, proposed to be established by Dr. Johnston, in his *History of British Sponges*. This species was sent from Sydney, Australia, by Rupert Kirk, Esq., after whom it is named *Kirkii*. It is sessile, massive, and somewhat compressed. The skeleton is coarsely fibrous and coralloid in appearance, having numerous grains of sand separately imbedded in its substance. The grains are not imbedded in the fibre from pressure through the external surface, but they occupy its very centre, each grain being separately encysted by the cartilaginous matter of the skeleton, the whole being surrounded by a thick coating of the same substance. The author describes at length the mode in which this curious structure appears to have been built up, and illustrates his description by highly magnified drawings of the manner in which the grains are built into the fibrous skeleton. Spicula were of rare occurrence in this specimen; when observed, they were imbedded in the external coating of the cartilaginous fibres: they are short, and comparatively thick in proportion to their length, decreasing very slightly from the middle to near the points, and are terminated acutely, but somewhat abruptly.

The third species is the *Spongia fragilis* of Montague, or *Duseideia fragilis* of Johnston's manuscript. It is massive, variable in form,

of a dull ochreous yellow colour, and has the surface asperated by the projection of fibres, which contain numerous grains of sand imbedded in a manner similar to those described in treating of the last species. There are also other fibres which are tubular in their structure, containing few or no grains of sand, but an abundance of spicula remarkable for their great variety in form and size.

No spicula were found in the fleshy matter of the sponge, but a considerable number of round or oval bodies were present, which presented every appearance of being cytotoblasts. The author concludes his paper by some observations on the present state of our knowledge of the structure of the *Spongiadae*, and notices certain changes that will become necessary in their systematical arrangement, when our information regarding their structure is more matured. The paper was illustrated by drawings of the sponges, and the various descriptions of spicula contained in their structures.

Some discussion followed, in which Messrs. Dalrymple, Varley, and others, took a part. It had reference to the Sydney *Duseideia*, and principally to the grains of sand stated to be separately imbedded in the substance, built into the fibrous skeleton; whether they were secreted by the animal, or whether they really were extraneous grains of sand. Opinion appeared to be in favour of secretion; but Mr. Bowerbank, who had carefully examined the species, brought forward powerful reasons—uniformity of size, arrangement, character, &c.—to prove his position; indeed almost to prove more than he was yet fully prepared to state, namely, that the animal exercised instinctive selection.

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Nov. 23, 1841.—Mr. J. Willimott in the chair. Mr. Lovel Reeve exhibited a beautiful new shell belonging to the genus *Mitra*, a description of which was read. The specimen exhibited was from the collection of Mr. Stainforth; and Mr. Reeve proposed to name it after that zealous conchologist. The *Mitra Stainforthii* is somewhat allied to the *M. sanguisuga* of Lamarck: the whorls are longitudinally ribbed, as in that species; but in the present shell they are wider and more distant from each other. They, moreover, have a series of square red spots, which at once serves as a distinguishing character of the species. The locality of this specimen is not known; but Mr. Cumming procured the same species from the island of Burias, one of the Philippines. These were found in coarse coral sand, at seven fathoms.

A series of bird-skins from Chili was next exhibited. The specimens were collected by Mr. Thomas Bridges, and laid before the meeting at his desire.

Mr. Gould called the attention of the members to many interesting species contained in the collection; and especially to a new bird, allied to the ducks, but which in many of its characters—especially in its longish stiff tail-feathers, and narrow and pointed beak—links the ducks with the grebes. It differs, however, from either of the groups mentioned, in having, in both sexes, a strong spur on the wing. To express, then, its more prominent characters, Mr. Gould proposed for it the name *Marganetta armata*. The sexes of the spur-winged *Marganetta* differ much in colouring—the male being black and white above, and mottled with brownish red and dusky beneath; whilst the female is gray above, pencilled with black and white on the back, and of an uniform bright brownish red beneath.

Mr. Waterhouse drew attention to a species of fox, which had also been sent from Chili by Mr. Bridges, and which he regarded as the *Canis azara* of Pr. Maximilian, though it differed from the specimen figured in the *Zoology of the Voyage of the Beagle*, in not having the black on the chin and angles of the mouth. Mr. Waterhouse moreover observed, that the new little Rodent, characterised at the previous meeting under the name of *Peromyscus fuscus*, formed part of the same collection.

PARIS LETTER.

Paris, Nov. 30, 1841.

Academy of Sciences. Sitting of Nov. 23.—The Academy received this day a communication of some interest, in the shape of a volume of inedited memoirs, by the great Vauban, the MSS. of which have hitherto remained in possession of the De Caligny family. The collection consists of a letter on the manner of drawing up military statistics; of several memoirs on the fortifications of Landau and Luxemburg; of a memoir entitled, "Project of the arrangements judged necessary by M. de Vauban against the effects of bombs at Havre, which may also serve for other towns and ports exposed to bombardments;" of a memoir, addressed to the king, on the levying and enrolling of troops; and of one on the pay and equipment of infantry. In the memoir on bombardments, M. de Vauban indicates measures which, he says, will confine the damage done to comparatively few houses, and will infallibly prevent the spreading of a conflagration from the shells. In that on the levying of troops, the marshal opposes the system of recruitment used in his time as not likely to produce good soldiers in periods of difficulty, and recommends the adoption of a plan precisely similar to the conscription now in use. He enters into a great number of minute details on this subject, and expresses his opinion that the ecclesiastical communities and the nobility should be made to bear their due share of the general military expenses of the country. In all these memoirs great minuteness of detail exists, and the organising genius of the illustrious author is shewn in a remarkable manner.—M. Poncet read the report of a committee on a method of construction for bridges, proposed by M. Giraud. The base of his system is this,—that it is possible to form a collection of "voussoirs," or wedges in wood, iron, stone, or other materials, in which the weight and thrust shall also be combined, that the whole may have the effect of a single block or beam; and that thus a bridge may be constructed perfectly flat both above and below, without any curve at all. The form of the voussoirs, as proposed by M. Giraud, is that of a half-ellipsoid, or half-egg, with the flat part uppermost; and the different voussoirs are fastened together by strong iron ties, the proper proportioning and adjusting of which seems to be the most difficult part of the system. The reporter stated that, without expecting M. Giraud's system could be used generally as a substitute for the other methods now adopted, yet it could be applied advantageously on a small scale. It was not cheaper than other plans; but it had the advantage of allowing bridges to be built at a greater altitude above the surface of the water, and thus of offering fewer impediments to navigation.—Two reports were read to the Academy: one on the new musical instrument with currents of air, invented by M. Isoard; the other on the *mélodiphone*, invented by M. Pellerin—an instrument, the performance on which excited much attention at the great exhibition of arts and

manufactures in this capital two years ago. This latter instrument is on the same fundamental principle as the *accordéon*, but is an improvement on it for its mechanical contrivances. The report on the former instrument was confined to a description of its mechanical construction, but terminated with a handsome eulogium on the inventor, who, as has been already stated, is a common mechanic. Its principle, we may remind our readers, consists in the striking of a note on strings, as in the piano-forte, and in the prolongation of the sound thus caused by means of a nicely-regulated current of air, introduced something in the same way as, and producing the effect which is so well known in, the *Æolian harp*.—M. Arago presented to the Academy some new philosophical instruments, especially a polarimeter, and an improved thermometer, registering the maxima of the dilatation of the mercury.—M. Charbonnier communicated to the Academy that he had succeeded in employing the nitrate of ammoniacal mercury, instead of solid mercury, in photographic operations. This he considered of importance, since the employment of the substance would be much more convenient for travellers.—M. Paillette read a memoir on the metalliferous deposits in Calabria and the north of Sicily. He contested the usually received opinion as to the antiquity of the mines found in these countries, and considered that they were not older than the beginning of the last century. He also shewed that the metals in the districts in question do not form veins, properly so called, but merely fill up the interstices between strata, or the fissures of rocks.—M. Jomard presented to the Academy from Edhem Bey, minister of public works and instruction in Egypt, a translation into Arabic of *Legendre's Geometry and Mayer's Algebra*, for the use of the Polytechnic School at Cairo.

M. Debret, the architect, who has been entrusted with the repairs and restorations of the Abbey Church of St. Denis, having had his works severely criticised by the most scientific archaeologists of France, some of whom go so far as to say that he has completely spoiled that edifice, the Minister of the Interior, on the recommendation of M. Vatout, has named a commission to inspect these works, and report upon them. This commission includes M. Vitet, who is one of the chief censurers of M. Debret; but all the rest of the members are great friends and admirers of what he has done—are all of the old classic school, who have no pretensions to the title of mediæval archaeologists, who hate the very sight of a pointed arch—and who not only will not pass a vote of censure, but will pronounce, in all probability, a warm eulogium on the fortunate architect.

A mosaic pavement has been recently found near Grenoble, $2\frac{1}{2}$ metres long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ metres broad. It is in fine preservation, and represents Ganymede entering Olympus in the presence of the gods. It is destined as a present to the Museum of Antiquities at Vienna.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, Nov. 25.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Doctor in Medicine.—W. A. Greenhill, Trin. College, one of the physicians to the Radcliffe Infirmary.
Masters of Arts.—W. Powell, Exeter Coll.; Rev. T. B. Croome, Trinity College.

Bachelors of Arts.—S. B. Harper, New Inn Hall; R. M. Martin, Edmund Hall; C. Cripps, Magd. Hall; J. H. Crowder, postmaster of Merton College; P. S. Ashworth, St. Alban Hall; J. Forbes, Exeter College; G. G.

Hayter, D. P. Chase, scholars of Oriel College; L. C. Wood, Jesus College; C. D. Hamilton, St. Mary Hall; B. Belcher, Wadham Coll.; J. G. Brine, fellow, C. Beswick, St. John's College; C. E. Frichard, scholar, H. Foot, Balliol College.

ROYAL SOCIETY.

November 30th.—Anniversary meeting of this Society; Sir J. W. Lubbock, vice-president, in the chair. After the reading of the address, the following were the awards of the medals, viz.:—the Copley medal was awarded to Dr. G. S. Ohm, of Nuremberg; the royal medal, in the department of chemistry, to R. Kane, M.D., M.R.I.A.; the other royal medal, in the department of physics, to E. Hodgkinson, Esq., F.R.S.

The following is a list of the new council:—The Marquess of Northampton, president; Sir J. W. Lubbock, Bart., M.A., treasurer; P. M. Roget, M.D., S. H. Christie, Esq., M.A., secretaries; J. F. Daniell, Esq., foreign secretary. Other members of the council: N. Arnot, M.D.; F. Baily, Esq.; W. T. Brande, Esq.; R. Bright, M.D.; W. H. Fitton, M.D.; Sir W. J. Hooker, K.H., LL.D.; W. Hopkins, Esq., M.A.; W. Lawrence, Esq.; G. A. Maniell, Esq., LL.D.; W. H. Peppys, Esq.; Rev. B. Powell; G. Rennie, Esq.; Lieut.-Col. W. B. Sykes; C. Wheatstone, Esq.; Rev. W. Whewell, B.D.; Rev. R. Willis, M.A.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Referring to our last report, we have to add, that in the letter from Sir S. R. Meyrick, in reference to the seals of Edward and Arthur, princes of Wales, engraved in the 20th volume of the *Archæologia*, the obverses are described as bearing three lions upon a shield, which Sir R. Meyrick, supported by the opinion of Mr. T. W. King, Rouge-dragon, proved to be in reality leopards. They are precisely similar in their drawing and character to the armorial bearings (the earliest extant) of one of the native princes of Wales of the twelfth century. They are to be distinguished from the armorial bearings of the kings of England by the lions passant of the latter bearing their tails elevated and flourishing over their backs, whereas the leopards of the princes of Wales have their turned downwards and passing between their legs.

Nov. 25.—Henry Hallam, Esq., vice-president, in the chair. In the absence of any communications whatever, Sir Henry Ellis read copies of two documents of the reign of James I., of no great importance, one being a report of the state of Ireland, shewing, according to the opinion of the writer, the causes which excited the native Irish to rebel, and the strength which they could bring to bear against the English; and the other, a copy of instructions for the king's ambassador to Denmark. The task of furnishing materials for reading on sudden emergencies of this kind falls rather frequently, and we should think rather heavily, upon its secretary. We believe it is the only society in London which cannot find members to write essays for its weekly meetings. This is rather remarkable; for the great number of new members elected during the last two years shew that the society is in a very flourishing state; and we are sure that antiquarian studies are now exciting more general interest than at any former period. We think it is a matter well worthy of the consideration of the council of the society, whether it might be advisable to introduce discussions; so as to give the mem-

• The fellows whose names in the preceding list are printed in *italics* were not members of the last council.

bers in general more interest in the papers, and consequently the writers more interest in producing them. The society wants life and spirits to hold up its head among the numerous active scientific and literary associations of the present day. We are not among those who think that the Society of Antiquaries has done nothing for the advancement of knowledge; but we think it might be made more efficient and useful.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Entomological, 8 P.M.; British Architects, 8 P.M.; Medical, 8 P.M.

Tuesday.—Linnæan, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 2 P.M.; Chemical, 8 P.M.

Wednesday.—Medico-Botan., 8 P.M.; Graphic, 8 P.M.

Thursday.—Royal, 8½ P.M.; Antiquaries, 8 P.M.; R. S. Literature, 4 P.M.

Friday.—Astronomical, 8 P.M.

Saturday.—Royal Botanic, 4 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.; Mathematical, 8 P.M.

BIOGRAPHY.

SIR FRANCIS CHANTREY.

This eminent sculptor died suddenly at his house at Pimlico on Thursday the 25th; an event for which previous symptoms had prepared him,—for we have heard him more than once declare that he anticipated such would be the end of his mortal career. Before the grave has well closed upon his remains, it would be premature to discuss the position in which his works place him among the great artists of his age and country; suffice it that he has done enough to establish his right to the reputation of high genius and masterly execution in several departments of his profession. It was indeed genius alone which led him into it, supported him through years of severe trial and discouragement, and finally enabled him to forget these in the triumph of successful designs and applauded labours. Francis Chantrey, born April 7th, 1782, was, we believe, the son of a small farmer at Norton, in Derbyshire, and not far from Sheffield; into which town, if we have been correctly informed by his youthful contemporaries, it was often his task to drive an ass laden with sand, for sale to its cleanly housekeepers. From this low estate he raised himself to rank and distinction by his own energy and talent. As we have heard the story, an aunt of his was upper-servant to a wealthy lady of family of the name of Stanley; and, upon a visit to her, chance discovered the long-cherished tastes and habits of the boy-modeller. What he had been practising in clay from childhood, he happened to display in dough upon some pastry which his aunt was preparing for her mistress's table. Some animal ornaments of the pie struck the company with admiration; and Mrs. Stanley could not conceive by what means her housekeeper had, all of a sudden, become such an adept in the moulding of figures. Inquiry elicited the truth; and Chantrey was bound apprentice to a carver and frame-maker at Sheffield, a Scotsman of the name of Ramsay. In this line he enjoyed opportunities, small as they were, for cultivating his ruling propensity; and at the age of seventeen he had not only made himself an expert and characteristic modeller in clay, but had shewn considerable aptitude for the sister art of painting, and tried his hand both in landscape and miniature likeness.

The world was all before him; and no doubt, full of the sanguine hopes of youth, he fancied he had but to go forth into it and take possession of his heritage. He visited, as we have been informed, Edinburgh and Dublin, but found it

not; and struggled on in various places, till in 1802 he was contesting it with Fortune in London, a poor and unknown man. In 1807, having studied in the Academy, he exhibited a portrait in oil at the annual exhibition; and having tried painting for several years, at length applied to his true vocation, bust-making. About 1808—it is mentioned in the newspapers—he sent a bust for the exhibition, the merits of which were so striking, that Nollekens generously removed one of his own to make room for it, and warmly adopted the interests of the young sculptor. From that period his course has been one of bright prosperity. Patronised by the royal, the noble, and the wealthy, he has ever had more commissions than he could execute; and some of his public works have commanded very large prices. By this means he accumulated great wealth; the principal part of which, we understand, he has bequeathed to his wife during her life, and then to be disposed of in the erection of an asylum for aged and decayed artists; or for the promotion of our native arts, by giving prizes for the best productions in painting as well as sculpture. Two hundred per annum has been bestowed on Allan Cunningham, his faithful friend and assistant; to whose services he has been deeply indebted for a public fame and employment not always proportionately accorded even to genius of the highest order.

Sir Francis Chantrey was extremely ambitious of being engaged in national monuments, either in marble or bronze, and executed a number of them, such as George III. in Guildhall; George IV. in Brighton and Edinburgh; Mr. Pitt, in Hanover Square; Mr. Watt; Sir T. Munro, and others, for India; several in St. Paul's Cathedral; bishops, and other whole-lengths and sepulchral designs for churches throughout the country. Of those we have mentioned, the statue of Mr. Watt perhaps alone sustains the fame of the artist; but his children in Lichfield Cathedral (from, it is said, a sketch by Stothard), and a family piece in Wales, are most touching testimonies to the purity of his taste and the truthfulness of his feelings. Like his busts, in which he shone perhaps without a rival, they are nature itself; and nature ever speaks to the human heart far beyond the tricks or graces of art. His latest bust, we are informed, is of Lord Melbourne; an exquisite specimen of his skill, and just finished.

In 1809 he married his cousin, Miss M. A. Wale: in 1817 was elected A.R.A., and the following year R.A., after the exhibition of his Lichfield monument.

In 1819 Sir Francis visited Italy; and afterwards went more than once to the Continent, to see the Louvre, and other great collections of the fine arts. In private society he was a lively and delightful companion, his looks and conversation equally full of pleasantry and merriment. He was very fond of the sports of the field; and besides his gun, was a son of the angle of no common accomplishment.

What will become of his undertakings left incomplete, it is impossible yet to say: all we observe is, that the press is beginning to be infused with paragraphs by way of sounding the public, and inclining the opinions of those who will have to determine the question. This is, we think, unwise and improper; but interested parties rarely know what is best for their own objects in this respect, and fancy that a printed hint in a newspaper will obtain all they want, without considering that it inclines the fair and just against them. Upon this, however, we shall not now farther dilate; but only express

our hope that the vast employment which flowed into the *atelier* of Chantrey will, in its natural dispersion, be made to cheer and encourage many of his living associates whose merits well deserve it; for with sorrow we say it, England can boast of much more genius in this noble branch of art than of adequate reward for those who cultivate it.

G. Arnald, Esq., A.R.A.—On the 21st this artist, so distinguished for the nature and the beauty of his English landscape-painting, for many years among the sweetest ornaments of our national exhibitions, died at his residence in Pentonville, in the 79th year of his life.

Dr. Birkbeck.—We have only time to announce the death of this very estimable man, which took place at his residence in Finsbury Square, on Wednesday morning.

SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

ANIMAL MAGNETISM.

ON Monday we were attracted to the City Hall, in Chancery Lane, to witness a "grand display" of this art, and a lecture, which were announced as the "*Discovery of a New World! Revelation of the Magnetic World, as an intermediate link between the Physical and the Spiritual; God revealed as the Triune Magnet of Universal Attraction, generative of Peace and Love*;" by Mr. W. H. Halse, Medical Galvanist, Proprietor of the *Galvanic Family Pill*.—The wording of this lecture might have prepared us for the issue; but we suppose we were attracted, in spite of our common sense, by some magnetic power, though not in the galvanic pill way. Well, Mr. Halse, with a strong Devonian accent, delivered a rambling lecture about Mesmer, the Paris Academy of Sciences' report (suppressing all that went against his pretensions), somnambulism, and his own practices in Plymouth and thereabouts. The company becoming impatient, the orchestra—two instruments behind a canvass bag—played up a tender tune, and a nice plump Devonshire lass stepped upon the platform, and was seated on a chair. She looked the impersonation of clotted cream; and Mr. Halse having insinuated his thumbs and fingers between hers, and sitting opposite to her with knees also in contact, and looking unutterable things,—she was sound asleep in the twinkling of an eye,—and we came away. We are told that other Okeys, whom we noticed as we went down stairs, being invigorated by some young men, assistants, with glasses of red port wine, afterwards submitted to a similar ordeal, and displayed all the rigidities, commotions, motions, and usual symptoms of mesmerised persons, in a most edifying degree. Mr. Halse could make them dance, sing, leap, cry, struggle, just as he pleased; and they all seemed so attached to him, that, if he could not wake them, he would be miserably worried by his variety of sleeping partners. Altogether it was a sorry exhibition.

THE DRAMA.

Covent Garden.—With so agreeable a *corps de ballet* as this theatre possesses, we have often wondered that it was not turned to better account. On Wednesday the *Wooden Leg*, a capital ballet by Oscar Byrne, was admirably danced by Gilbert, Miss Ballin, and (if we were not mistaken in the grace and beauty of her pupil) by Miss Taylor, one of the most promising of coryphees. It was much applauded throughout, and is a charming half-hour's interlude.

The license for the Haymarket Theatre has,

we are told, been extended to the whole year; and Mr. Macready, indignant at what he considers an encroachment upon the rights and privileges of other theatres by the Summer lessee, has resolved to withdraw his performances from the Haymarket after this day.

VARIETIES.

Pawsey's Ladies' Fashionable Repository for 1842 (London, Longman and Co., Suttaby and Co.; Ipswich, F. Pawsey). The literary matter, original and selected, in this miscellany, does, as heretofore, infinite credit to the editor's taste and the local Muses whom his publication invites to "plume their wings." The arrangements are good and useful; and altogether we have to iterate our praise, that it is one of the best ladies' annual companions which it is our luck to see.

Schloss's Bijou Almanack is this year in excellent time for Christmas and new-year's remembrances; and it is to be hoped the recipients, pleased with its petite elegance and beauty, will fancy

The gift is great because it is so small; without the corollary, that

It might be greater, were there none at all!

The subjects of its plates we have already mentioned, to which the pen of Mrs. Norton has supplied the appropriate verse: for the young scions of royalty fervent prayers; to Charles Dickens a warm and well-deserved tribute of admiration; to the performers Rachel, Ellen Tree, and Staudigl, panegyrics suited to their merits; and to one John Murray the following:—

"John Murray! Dare I call thee John?

Yes; for who calls thee Mister Murray?

The first familiar name's the one

Which puts up authors in a flurry:

The first familiar name is that

Long linked with memories bright and pleasant,

With hours of intellectual chat

O'er claret, venison, grouse, and pheasant;

And all the sunshine, clouds, and blame

Which hang round Byron's chequered story,

Whom thy discernment led to fame

When fools denied the wreath of glory!"

No great compliment, by the way, to the Edinburgh Reviewers—but let that pass; whilst we state that, in velvet, morocco, or satin, enriched with gold, and accompanied by "the glass of fashion," this very mould of form is, in its seventh year, as worthy as ever of the far-and-wide patronage of the public.

Barnaby Rudge has just been completed by the publication of No. 87 of *Humphrey's Clock*; and the Clock itself has ceased to go with a final No. 88. In these Nos. the author winds up his design for the present in a manner which reflects high honour even on his feelings and genius. There are passages of exquisite and unwrought pathos in their pages, which may be quoted among the purest and most affecting of British classics—gems from the mine of mind, which will be bright and sparkle for ever. A few characteristic touches of the comic personages also mark the *dénouement*; and of the whole we may truly say, that it sustains the writer's well-earned reputation, as ever aiming to excite the sympathies of man for his fellow-man, in poverty, in distress, in aberration, and even in guilt. An announcement on the cover states, that Mr. Dickens is about to pay a visit to the United States, and proposes to recommence his literary occupations in November next.

Charles O'Malley—for this seems an epoch of winding up—has also closed the career of the Irish Dragon, with a double number (21, 22). The extensive and deserved popularity of Mr. Lever (whose portrait, we believe, his almost

namesake and companion in the most successful pursuits of light and amusing literature, *Lover*, has lately been to Brussels to paint) will, we trust, be sufficient inducement to him to embark in another work. The intense spirit and frolic of his sketches have made them so welcome to the public, that we are sure he might evoke many other characters and adventures with equal felicity.

Cruikshank's Omnibus runs on, and is some solatium for these losses. His December number is full of attraction. A capital portrait of Miss A. Kemble, and two of his most admirable engravings of the breaking into the Jewel-room during the late fire at the Tower, are of greater interest and value than the price of the series from the commencement; and in its literary parts, besides a curious notice of the Tower, &c., a tale in verse of "The King of Brentford and his two Sons," is one of the cleverest things of the kind we have seen, and exceedingly humorous, though not by Ingoldsby.

No. I. of *The Commissioner*; or, *de Lunatico Inquirendo* (Dublin, Curry and Co.; London, Orr and Co.), has issued, to fill any probable vacancy. It seems to embrace political satire, and Ireland to be its Moon.

Hint for the Holydays.—Boys! "During the winter-months, the Chinese amused themselves with kite-flying; their kites had a hole in the centre, across which were placed several strings; and when they were up in the air, the wind passing through the hole produced a loud humming noise. I suppose this was on the same principle as the Æolian harp. Some of them were very pretty and ingenious, being in the shape of birds and butterflies, the wings of which were made of loose thin paper, which fluttered about as they rose into the air."—*From Scott's Imprisonment in China.*

The Scottish Hospital.—Among the best of our great charities, we rejoice to say, the Scottish Hospital has at its late anniversary (St. Andrew's day) received a powerful impulse in consequence of the nationality of the Lord Mayor. About three hundred guests assembled on the occasion; and nearly 700*l.* was subscribed in the room.

Royal Exchange.—The 19th of January is appointed for the grand civic and masonic ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the new Royal Exchange.

Fire in Surgeons' Hall.—This repository of science was, last week, nearly added to the list of public buildings destroyed by fire. The flames were discovered raging in the lower parts; but engines being quickly obtained and brought into operation, they were fortunately extinguished before any great damage was done.

Royal College of Surgeons.—The fossil remains of a sloth and an armadillo, each as large as a rhinoceros, from South America, have recently been added to the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, by purchase; the sum of 300*l.* having been disbursed by the council to secure for their collection of comparative anatomy these rare animals, of which only very small portions have hitherto reached Europe. Although we have given the fossils the names of the diminutive quadrupeds to which they are most nearly allied, the extinct giants present differences which anatomists regard as entitling them to distinct names. The ancient representative of the armadillo is called *Glyptodon*, and was covered with a bony coat of mail, eight feet in length, and upwards of a yard in breadth. The gigantic sloth, or *Mylodon*, appears from its teeth to have fed on leaves; but being too bulky to climb trees, like the small sloths of the present day, it is

supposed that he uprooted and pulled them down, for which the animal seems, by the strength of its bones, to have been well adapted. Be that as it may, the fossil animal which has arrived in England has had an extensive fracture along the upper part of the skull, such as the fall of a tree might be supposed to produce; and this accident has occurred some time before its death: for, though the upper bone of the skull has been driven in, the fracture is healed as completely as if the creature had been under the care of the most experienced of the faculty, in whose museum his remains are henceforth destined to form a principal ornament.

Navigation of the Euphrates.—The *Toulonnais French journal*, on the authority of a letter from Aleppo, states that the English expedition has left that city to proceed down the Euphrates, in the two steamers lying at Beles. Mr. Lynch commands it; and his instructions are said to be to explore its banks in geographical, botanical, zoological, and archaeological subjects.

The Emperor of Russia has presented to the University of Cambridge, through the chancellor, a copy of a work by Prof. Postels and Dr. Ruprecht, *On the Maritime Plants of the Northern Coasts of the Pacific Ocean*. This splendid volume consists of a series of lithographic plates, exquisitely and most faithfully coloured after the original plants, with descriptive letter-press in Russian and Latin.

Round Towers in Ireland.—The original purpose of these ancient forms of architecture has ever been a question of high antiquarian interest; and the opinion that they were places of sepulture (with perhaps other attributes) has been strongly maintained and denied. The recent finding of some human bones within the basement of the tower at Ardmore having revived the discussion, fuel has been added to the flame by the farther discovery of other bones at a little distance from the former, and of a fragment of an Ogham inscription containing nine letters in the name of the ruined church adjoining. Consequently upon these events, a party of Irish antiquaries have proceeded to examine the towers at Cashel and Cloyne. In the first, the interior was filled with loose earth and human bones to the depth of two feet—then a mass of solid stone-work, the original floor, and 5 feet 9 inches below the door. This being penetrated, the excavation was carried down to the rock on which the foundations were laid, and no sepulchral remains found. A few minute fragments of charcoal were lying at the base. In the second, on the contrary, where the solid floor was under two feet of rubbish, as before, it was of small stones laid in gravel, and firmly bedded; but under this, within a space of six feet diameter, were discovered three skeletons, laid west and east—two of them side by side, and the third under these. Thus it has been ascertained that the towers of Tirnaboe, Ram Island, Ardmore, and Cloyne, were, among other uses, appropriated as sepulchres, whilst similar buildings, such as Cashel and Kinneah, were not so employed. Whether pagan or Christian, remains a mystery; but it is curious that all the sites where Ogham inscriptions have been found are of decidedly heathen origin.—[Abridged from No. 3 of the *Archæologist*, which we have mentioned, in our No. 1286, as an interesting and valuable journal of antiquarian science, and which acknowledges a local Irish paper as its authority for the facts stated. We have no doubt that other towers will soon be submitted to examination.—*Ed. Lit. Gaz.*]

Earthquakes.—Up to the 10th ult. a series

of storms and earthquakes have desolated parts of the two Sicilies and Calabria, a region of volcanic fires. The people are in a state of great alarm; and from the mischief already done, it is frightful to apprehend what ravages may follow. The meteorological phenomena throughout the larger portion of Europe for the last two or three months have been of an uncommon and unsettled character; and the weather generally severe. On the 25th of September extraordinary perturbations occurred in magnetic observations at Greenwich and elsewhere.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

In the press, the *Reciprocal Influence of Body and Mind*; exhibited in its Agency upon the great Questions of Education, Phrenology, Materialism, &c. &c., by W. Newnham, Esq.—"Handy Andy," which, worse than the story of the Bear and Fiddle, that "began, but left off in the middle," began only to tease us by being left off before it had proceeded a tithe of its humorous way (in a few Nos. of Bentley's Miscellany) is at last, we rejoice to see, advertised by its popular author, Mr. S. Lover, to be re-born and continued to an end in monthly Parts.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The *Jaquerie*; or, the Lady and the Page, by G. P. R. James, Esq., 3 vols. post 8vo, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*—P. F. Tytler's History of Scotland, Vol. v., post 8vo, 6*s.*—The Holy Bible, containing the authorised Version, with 20,000 Emendations, 8vo, 2*s.* 6*d.*—The History and Topography of Bradford, Yorkshire, by J. James, 8vo, 12*s.*; or with Pedigrees, 8vo, 15*s.*—Reeve's *Conchologia Systematica*, Part III., 4to, 12*s.* plain; 2*s.* coloured.—London's Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum abridged, Part I., 8vo, 5*s.*—Lacines, Maxims, and Reflections, by H. Kingston, 8vo, 2*s.* 6*d.*—Letters of Peter Platitude on Cambridge and the Cautab, Part I., 1*s.*—Frederick the Great and his Times, edited by T. Campbell, 2 vols. 8vo, 2*s.*—The Prince of the Mountains: a Syrian Romance (a Poem), fep. 6*s.*—Wills: a Digest of the whole Law, with Forms, by R. Allen, 4*s.* 5*s.*—Satan: a Poem, by R. Montgomery, 10th edit. fep. 4*s.*—The Old Forest Ranger; or, Wild Sports of India, by Capt. W. Campbell, 8vo, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*—The Florist's Journal for 1841, 8vo, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Rev. Dr. T. W. Jenkyn on the Atonement, 3d edit. post 8vo, 1*s.*—Bp. Andrews' Sermons, Vol. IV., 8vo, 10*s.* 6*d.*—The Chaturanga; or, Games of Chess, by Mrs. Col. Hartley, 18mo, 5*s.*—The Veterans of Chelsea Hospital, by the Rev. G. H. Glegg, 3 vols. post 8vo, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*—Fathers and Sons: a Novel, by Theodore Hook, 3 vols. post 8vo, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*—The Token: an American Annual, 12mo, 12*s.*—The Glory and Shame of England, by an American, 2 v. post 8vo, 2*l.*—Gurney's West Indies, 4th edit. 18mo, 2*s.*—Narrative of a Recent Imprisonment in China, by J. L. Scott, 12mo, 6*s.*—Parallel History, by P. A. B. Price, 8vo, 1*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*—Old Saint Paul's: a Tale, by W. H. Ainsworth, 3 vols. post 8vo, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*—The Seven Sermons preached at the consecration of the Parish Church at Leeds, post 8vo, 12*s.*

METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1841.

	Thermometer.	Barometer.
November.		
Thursday 25	From 26 to 39	29.70 to 29.31
Friday 26	39 to 39	29.79 to 29.73
Saturday 27	31 to 51	29.64 to 29.56
Sunday 28	40 to 50	29.57 to 29.44
Monday 29	43 to 56	29.16 to 28.95
Tuesday 30	51 to 53	28.84 to 29.15
December.		
Wednesday 1	41 to 49	29.50 to 29.31

Wind north-west on the 25th; north-east on the 26th; south-east on the 27th; since south and south-west. On the 28th, clear; the 26th, a thick fog in the morning, otherwise overcast, a little rain fell in the evening; the 27th, cloudy and foggy, rain fell in the evening; the 28th, evening cloudy, with rain, otherwise generally clear; the 29th, overcast, frequent and heavy showers of rain, with boisterous wind during the day; the 30th ult., evening clear, otherwise overcast, frequent showers of rain during the morning; the 1st instant, a general overcast, rain in the afternoon and evening. The heavy rain on the evening of the 25th and following morning caused the waters to be raised several feet above their usual level. Rain fallen, 1.25 inch.

Edmonton.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Very many communications have been received this week too late for any notice. We cannot impress too strongly upon friends and correspondents the absolute necessity for sending their favours during the earlier days of the week.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

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Age	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
£17	12	2	7	15	30	50	80	115	150

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Age	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
£14	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

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£10	1	0	10	1	7	1	3	7	1

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